



**For Immediate Release
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**THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION ANNOUNCES
RELEASE OF DRAFT HISTORIC PARKWAYS TREATMENT GUIDELINES**

Today, the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) released the draft Historic Parkway Preservation Treatment Guidelines for public comment. The Guidelines represent the most recent step in determining the processes for managing historic parkway resources throughout the Commonwealth; the metropolitan Boston parkways system is a significant part of the history of the Commonwealth with a rich urban, recreational, and transportation planning legacy.

The Guidelines were developed in conjunction with the Historic Parkway Initiative, established in 2001, which involves the Massachusetts Highway Department and the Massachusetts Historical Commission and is spearheaded by the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs. Since its creation, the work of the Initiative has informed public policy on issues relating to the historic parkway protection and has guided their preservation through the careful implementation of much needed capital improvement projects.

“The development of these Guidelines represents over three years of research, documentation, planning and implementation,” said DCR Commissioner Stephen H. Burrington. “Their completion will ensure that these significant historic resources will be properly cared for.”

The Guidelines can be viewed online at <http://www.mass.gov/dcr/hpguidelines.htm>.

DCR will hold two public meetings to present the draft Guidelines, one on Tuesday, June 13, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. at the Doyle Conservation Center, 464 Abbott Avenue in Leominster and another on June 14, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. at the central Boston Public Library in Copley Square. The meetings will be opportunities for the public to comment on the draft Guidelines.

“These draft Guidelines were developed in direct response to public concern over the future of DCR’s parkways and are a step towards developing a consistent protocol for parkway preservation,” said Environmental Affairs Secretary Stephen R. Pritchard.

DCR will accept public comment on the draft Guidelines until 5:00 p.m. on June 28, 2006.

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